



February 25, 2021

Ellen Wheatley, Acting Director
Office of Child Care
330 C ST SW, 4th Floor
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Director Wheatley:

This letter describes how Snoqualmie Indian Tribe plans to use the Child Care and Development Funds (CCDF) awarded under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA). We understand that this description will be used for the purpose of informing the Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families, and Congress how our Lead Agency anticipates using the funds to support the child care needs in our jurisdiction.

We plan to use CRRSA funds for activities in the following categories:

1. Direct Child Care Services (Subsidies)

The Tribal Lead agency intends to utilize these funds to absorb/pay any COVID-19 related fees that may be added to the cost of care. Including but not limited to additional cleaning fees.

2. Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices

The Tribal Lead Agency does not operate a childcare facility at this time. The Tribal Lead agency does intend to offer grants to eligible facilities. One such intended use for the grant is to financially assist facilities in development and implementation of health and safety practices to mitigate the spread of the virus.

3. Grants or Assistance (Other than Subsidies) to Stabilize Child Care Providers

Tribal lead agency plans to offer direct support grants on a quarterly basis to eligible licensed child care facilities in the Tribe's designated service area; to cover expenses directly incurred due to the pandemic including health and safety quality improvements, lost wages for staff, lost revenue due to occupancy, and other eligible items to be determined as a financial burden of maintaining an operational childcare facility during the pandemic. Our grant application and request form is currently under development as is the operational policy for these grants.

4. Assistance to Providers Not Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic

The Tribal Lead Agency intends to offer grants to all licensed childcare facilities in the Tribe's service area including those that were not operating on the Tribe's subsidy program prior to the pandemic. Priority will be given to childcare facilities who have continued to provide services to low income families, Native families, and families of healthcare workers and first responders throughout the pandemic.

5. Other

The Tribal Lead Agency will assist families on our any of the Tribal Lead Agency's childcare programs utilizing in-home care with PPE items, through monthly shipments of PPE supplies through a third party vendor. Families who access childcare assistance under any of the Tribal Lead Agency's programs will also be able to request assistance with traditional/cultural health alternatives to ensure Native families are able address healing aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic through a cultural lens .

The Snoqualmie Indian Tribe is continuing to develop additional measures for how CCDF CRRSA funds will be spent. Our plan to gather information to help decide final implementation parameters on how we will use the funds is as follows: Get preliminary Council approval for funding usage as described above, work with outside legal counsel on the development of an external grant contract for facilities to apply for and agree to, return to Tribal Council for final review and approval. Our timeline for deciding how funds will be used is April 1, 2021.

The Snoqualmie Indian Tribe will amend our CCDF plan as a result of activities implemented under CRRSA funding not currently described in the plan, within 60 days of implementation.

Sincerely,

Robert M. de los Angeles
Tribal Chariman
Snoqualmie Indian Tribe

cc: Paul Noski, Regional Program Manager, Office of Child Care, Region 10
Casandra Moses, Program Specialist, Office of Child Care, Region 10

Joshua Lee, Program Specialist, Office of Child Care, Region 10